

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 INR-10 IO-12 MED-03 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 SCA-01 SCI-06 USIA-12 PRS-01 CIAE-00

HEW-08 AID-20 INRE-00 L-03 RSR-01 /125 W
----- 102791

P R 040700 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6261

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 0579

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: UV, SWEL, (JOSEPH CONOMBO)

SUBJ: FONMIN' S COMMENTS ON MEASLES EPIDEMIC

REF: STATE 60432

JOINT STATE- AID ACTION

1. CONOMBO' S COMMENTS WERE IN ORAL STATEMENT OVER RADIO MARCH 31, AND WERE AS OUTLINED REFTEL (EXCEPT FINAL SENTENCE REFTEL WHICH OBVIOUSLY WRITTEN BY AP). OFFICIAL TEXT HIS STATEMENT, WHICH APPEARS DIFFER FROM VERSION HEARD BY LISTENERS, SAYS " STOPPAGE OF USAID ASSISTANCE IN FURNISHING THIS EXPENSIVE VACCINE POSES PROBLEMS FOR US, AND WE COUNT ON THE AID OF ALL OUR FRIENDS TO HELP US TREAT THE COMPLICATIONS OF MEASLES, IN PARTICULAR BY PROVIDING ANTIBIOTICS."
2. FACT EMBASSY REQUESTING URGENT SHIPMENT BY US OF 60,000 DOSES MEASLES VACCINE FOR UPPER VOLTA (OUAGA TEL 553) HAD BEEN COMMUNICATED TO RURAL HEALTH DIVISION OF HEALTH MINISTRY ONLY DAY BEFORE CONOMBO' S STATEMENT, AND IT POSSIBLE HE NOT YET INFORMED. HOWEVER, HEALTH MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE KNOWN FOR SEVERAL WEEKS THAT MEASLES VACCINE INCLUDED IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DELIVERY SYSTEMS PROJECT SCHEDULED FOR FY-74. (EMBTEL 425). CONOMBO DID NOT CONTACT EMBASSY BEFORE ISSUING STATEMENT.

3. UPPER VOLTA HAS JUST RECEIVED 15,000 DOSES VACCINE FROM FRENCH, WITH 15,000 MORE PLUS ANTIBIOTICS TO FOLLOW SHORTLY. GOUV HAS REQUESTED 100,000 DOSES PLUS ANTIBIOTICS FROM WEST GERMANY, WHOSE EMBASSY HAS PASSED REQUEST URGENTLY TO BONN.

4. NORMAL VACCINATION RATE IS 25,000 PER MONTH. EVEN BY MAKING EMERGENCY EFFORTS, IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER GOUV COULD ADMINISTER MORE THAN ABOUT 100,000 DOSES BY LATE JUNE, WHEN ONSET OF RAINS MAKES MUCH OF COUNTRY INACCESSIBLE.

5. COMMENT: AS AF BUREAU AWARE FROM MY RECENT CONVERSATIONS IN WASHINGTON, WE SEE INCREASING EVIDENCE THAT CONOMBO UNDER PRESSURE FROM LESS MODERATE AND MORE VIGOROUS ELEMENTS IN CABINET. AS RESULT HE APPEARS TO BE CONSCIOUSLY SEEKING OCCASIONS FOR CRITICISM OF US.

EASUM

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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